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Dryden activist's petition to ban declawing presented at Queen's Park

(Queen's Park) A Dryden animal activist's petition to ban the declawing of cats has made its way to Queen's Park and was presented by Sarah Campbell, MPP Kenora-Rainy River March 5.

The petition, spearheaded by Dryden's Camille Cox, asks the province to ban the unnecessary cosmetic procedure, which is known to destroy a cat's quality of life, leading to behavioral and health problems.

"What many people don't realize is that the process of declawing isn't actually removing the claw, it involves the amputation of a cat's toes," says Campbell who has worked with Cox to raise awareness of the issue. "Camille has been very vocal on this issue. She has been extremely dedicated to the cause and I am very proud to do what I can to assist her in this very important cause."

For animal adoption agencies declawed cats are very problematic as many cats who have undergone the procedure end up being returned as a result of the behavioral problems declawing has created.

Through online networks Cox's petition has circulated across the province of Ontario and she has forged partnerships with other concerned citizens to help raise awareness. In order to increase the effectiveness of the campaign Campbell has asked other MPPs to present petitions on behalf of their own constituents who have circulated and signed the petition.

"The more people we can get involved the better," states Campbell, who has agreed to present a similar petition on behalf of Mississauga's Adopt Me Canada, who began their own campaign and have since worked with Cox to raise awareness of the issue in Southern Ontario. Campbell plans to present those petitions later this month and once again work with other MPPs in hopes of seeing meaningful action from the provincial government on the issue.

Video of the petition being presented is available online at <http://www.youtube.com/krrndp>.